

MEMORIAL

TO

HERBERT F. SCHOENING

(July 7, 1892 – December 5, 1938)

**Hennepin County Bar Association
Hennepin County District Court
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Saturday, February 11, 1939**

Memorial to Herbert F. Schoening

Herbert Frederick Schoening was born on July 7, 1892, at Arlington, Minnesota, of humble parentage, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schoening. His birthplace remained his home during the time he received his elementary and high school education. He entered Hamline University when he was 16 years of age, and was graduated from there in 1912, with the degree Bachelor of Philosophy. He then matriculated at the University of Chicago to take up the study of law and prepare himself for what was to be his life's work. He was a brilliant student, and excelled in his studies. In 1916 he graduated with the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence.

When the war came, he served his country as an officer and instructor in the Ordnance Department of the Army.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1917, both in the state of Minnesota as well as North Dakota. After his discharge from the service he served his apprenticeship in law offices in Duluth and Minneapolis. In 1920 he formed a partnership with Albert J. Johnson, and opened an office in Minneapolis that continued until 1927. Thereafter, he continued his practice alone until his death,

He specialized in the practice of commercial law, and built up an enviable reputation in that field. In this branch of the profession he became one of the leading members in this community and throughout the state. He was a member of the Hennepin County, the Minnesota and the American Bar Associations, and took active part therein, especially in the local and state organizations. He was also a member of the Commercial Law League of America.

He was a firm believer in the value of organized effort in behalf of the profession. He knew that whatever improvement was accomplished, whatever progress was made, would come only through organization. The Commercial Law League was close to his heart. He had been a member of it ever since he started the practice of law, and served with credit on various committees of this organization.

My acquaintance and association with him extended over 11 years. As a member of his organization, I came in daily contact with him. I had a profound respect and admiration for him, both as a lawyer and as a man. He was honest and fearless and steadfast in all his dealings. He was a man of unwavering principles. He held fast to his convictions of what was right and wrong. He practiced the highest morality. There was no sham or pretense about him. He was conscientious in all his work, especially in relation to his clients. He was exacting in every detail.

He served his clients faithfully, and his relations with them were always honest and above reproach. While those attorneys who represented interests on the other side of the case soon learned that he was zealous to guard his client's rights, nevertheless, he was always honest and straight forward with those opposed to him, and believed in fair play. He was a tireless worker. He was always at his desk daily, until he was stricken with the illness which proved fatal.

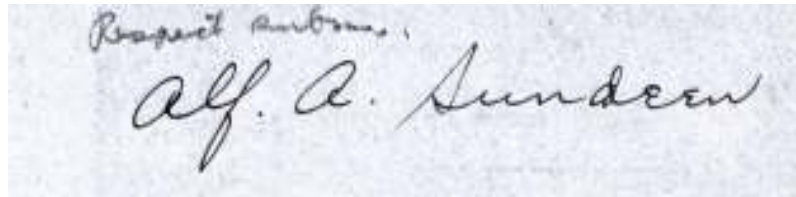
He loved his fellow men, and was always willing to help those less fortunate. This was exemplified by his activities in the fraternal orders to which he belonged, the Elks, the Masonic Order, and other organizations. He gladly gave his time and financial assistance to their various charities. I know this was particularly true of the Elks. He served for several years on the committee for the Christmas party for the inmates at the Glen Lake School for Boys. He personally attended these parties, bringing these boys cheer and inspiration. He also always assisted with the Elks' Christmas Theatre party for indigent children. He took a keen enjoyment in doing this work, but was always modest and unassuming about it.

He was Past Exalted Ruler of the Elks, Number 44. He was a member of Zarthen Lodge, Number 309, being a 32nd Degree Mason, and also of Zuhrah Temple. He belonged to the Business and Professional Men's Post of the American Legion, and was a member of the Hennepin M. E. church,

Above all these, stood his home and family. Family ties meant much to him. The welfare of his family was always uppermost in

his mind, to protect them in any emergency. He displayed that devotion to his family which is essential to make the home what it should be, the foundation of all moral and spiritual progress of mankind. His family, comprised of his wife, Alvilda E. Schoening, and four children, Marjorie, Herbert F. Jr., Roger and Norman, survive him. He is also survived by his mother and two sisters.

His was an untimely death which occurred on December 5th, 1938. In the middle of his career, in the prime, of life, he was snatched from our midst. It is mute evidence of the strenuous life of a lawyer and the stress and strain of modern life. His passing is a loss felt keenly, not only by his beloved family and by his friends, but also by the profession in which we are engaged.



Respectfully,
Alf. A. Sundeen

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